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HOUSE BILL 348

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009

INTRODUCED BY

Benjamin H. Rodefer

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; REQUIRING ART AND MUSIC TO BE
TAUGHT AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK IN KINDERGARTEN THROUGH SIXTH
GRADE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 22-13-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003,
Chapter 153, Section 57, as amended by Laws 2007, Chapter 307,
Section 7 and by Laws 2007, Chapter 308, Section 7) is amended
to read:

"22-13-1. SUBJECT AREAS--MINIMUM INSTRUCTIONAL AREAS
REQUIRED--ACCREDITATION.--

A. The department shall require public schools to
address department-approved academic content and performance
standards when instructing in specific department-required
subject areas as provided in this section. A public school or

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1 school district failing to meet these minimum requirements
2 shall not be accredited by the department.

3 B. All kindergarten through third grade classes
4 shall provide daily instruction in reading and language arts
5 skills, including phonemic awareness, phonics and
6 comprehension, and in mathematics. Students in kindergarten
7 and first grades shall be screened and monitored for progress
8 in reading and language arts skills and students in second
9 grade shall take diagnostic tests on reading and language arts
10 skills.

11 C. All first, second and third grade classes shall
12 provide instruction in [~~art, music and~~] a language other than
13 English, and instruction that meets content and performance
14 standards shall be provided in science, social studies,
15 physical education and health education.

16 D. All kindergarten through sixth grade classes
17 shall provide instruction in art and music at least once per
18 week.

19 [~~D.~~] E. In fourth through eighth grades,
20 instruction that meets academic content and performance
21 standards shall be provided in the following subject areas:

22 (1) reading and language arts skills, with an
23 emphasis on writing and editing for at least one year and an
24 emphasis on grammar and writing for at least one year;

25 (2) mathematics;

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- 1 (3) language other than English;
- 2 (4) communication skills;
- 3 (5) science;
- 4 (6) art;
- 5 (7) music;
- 6 (8) social studies;
- 7 (9) New Mexico history;
- 8 (10) United States history;
- 9 (11) geography;
- 10 (12) physical education; and
- 11 (13) health education.

12 [E-] F. Beginning with the 2008-2009 school year,
13 in eighth grade, algebra 1 shall be offered in regular
14 classroom settings or through online courses or agreements with
15 high schools.

16 [F-] G. In fourth through eighth grades, school
17 districts shall offer electives that contribute to academic
18 growth and skill development and provide career and technical
19 education.

20 [G-] H. In ninth through twelfth grades,
21 instruction that meets academic content and performance
22 standards shall be provided in health education."

23 Section 2. APPLICABILITY.--This act applies to the 2009-
24 2010 and subsequent school years.